

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/299,596

Examiner

Stefano Karmis

Applicant(s)

LEE, TONG HYONG

Art Unit

3624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Arguments filed 07 July 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 3-21 and 27.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

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ALLOWANCE

1. Claims 3-21 and 27 are pending in the present application. Claims 22-26 and 28-33 are cancelled.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments, see Remarks (pages 19-21) filed on 13 March 2006, with respect to claims 3-21 and 27 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of these claims has been withdrawn.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

3. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Robert J. Webster on 02 October 2006.

The application has been amended as follows:

Please cancel claims 22-26

Amend claim 16 as follows:

On page 16, line 6 delete "judging" and insert -- determining --

Amend claim 17 as follows:

On page 10, line 5 delete second occurrence of "and"

On page 10, line 9 after "subscriber" insert - - ;and displaying the current storing amount and the storing amount contents when the balance storing data is stored. - -

Amend claim 27 as follows:

On page 15, line 16 delete "and"

On page 15, line 19 after "received" insert -- ;and displaying balance storing information.

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Allowable Subject Matter

4. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The instant invention defines an apparatus and method for storing electronic money. The apparatus and method requires a radio signal and comparison of extracted numbers in order to authorize the storing of the electronic money. The closest prior art, Takami et al. U.S. Patent 6,536,661 teaches an electronic money transaction system with radio transmitter and receiver using a portable phone. Takami teaches processing a transaction with an IC card by comparing a serial number extracted from the received signal with a previously stored serial number if it is determined that the received signal corresponds to balance storing information and storing a

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balance storing data extracted from the balance storing information into the memory block if the extracted serial number and the previously stored serial number are determined to be the same and the balance storing information transmitted from the radio signal receiving block is determined to be a proper signal; and a non-contact block for storing a balance storing amount into the memory block using a card storing unit and reading a balance storing amount of the memory block when paying the money (column 11, line 40 thru column 12 line 58 and Figures 13-15).

However, the prior art of record fails to teach an apparatus for storing electronic money comprising: a radio signal receiving block for receiving a radio signal and determining whether the received signal corresponds to general information or balance storing information and a computation logic block for comparing a serial number extracted from the received signal with a previously stored serial number if it is determined that the received signal corresponds to balance storing information, and storing balance storing data extracted from the balance storing information into a memory block if the extracted serial number and the previously stored serial number are determined to be the same as discussed on pages 7-11 of the specification. These elements in combination with all of the other elements of the claims are not taught or fairly suggested in the prior art of record. For this reason claim 3 is deemed allowable over the prior art. Claims 10, 16, 17 and 27 are substantially similar to claim 3 and are allowed following the same reasoning. Claims 4-9, 11-15 and 18-21 are allowed for their dependency.

5. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

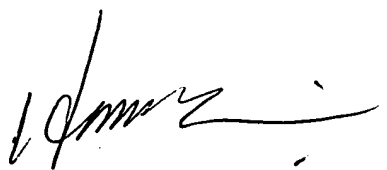
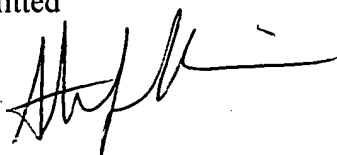
Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Stefano Karmis whose telephone number is (571) 272-6744. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F: 8-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent Millin can be reached on (571) 272-6747. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Respectfully Submitted
Stefano Karmis
02 October 2006



HANI M. KAZIMI
PRIMARY EXAMINER